

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 H-02 USIE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 INRE-00

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DRAFTED BY NEA/P:MVANORDER:DL

APPROVED BY NEA/P:GFSHERMAN

S/PRS - MR. FUNSETH (INFO

H - MR. FLATEN (INFO)

EUR/P - MR. JERABEK

IO/P - MR. BLACHLY

NEA/ARN - MR. BULLEN

NEA/ARP - MR. AHERNE

AF/P - MR. POPE

NEA - MS. GRIFFIN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
CINCEUR

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL
CINCEUR FOR POLAD

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS
FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING FOR
DECEMBER 22, 1975:

Q. DO WE HAVE ANYTHING TO SAY ABOUT THIS ACTIVITY BY ARAB
GUERRILLAS IN VIENNA, ALGIERS, ETC.?

A. JUST TO RESTATE THAT WE DEPLORE INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE
SUCH AS THIS. THEY CONTRIBUTE NOTHING TO EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE
A JUST AND LASTING PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST, TO WHICH WE ARE
ALL COMMITTED.

Q. ARE YOU DOING ANYTHING?

Q. WE ARE NOT TAKING ANY ACTION OF ANY KIND, OR ARE WE
ACTING IN CONCERT WITH ANY OTHER NATIONS TOWARDS THE FACT
THAT THEY ARE BEING PROVIDED SOME SANCTUARY SOMEWHERE?

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A. I THINK I WOULD JUST COMMENT THAT OUR ACTION AS FAR AS
I KNOW IS THAT WE HAVE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH EMBASSIES IN
WASHINGTON WHO REPRESENT THOSE COUNTRIES WHOSE OFFICIALS
WERE TAKEN, AND WE EXPRESSED TO THEM OUR HOPE THAT THESE
OFFICIALS WOULD BE RELEASED UNHARMED. I THINK THE LEADER-
SHIP THE UNITED STATES HAS TAKEN IN INTERNATIONAL FORUMS
ON TERRORISM AND ACTIONS IT HAS PROPOSED DEMONSTRATE VERY
WELL WHAT OUR POSITION HAS BEEN ON ACTS OF TERRORISM.

Q. THERE IS A REPORT IN AN ISRAELI PAPER TODAY SAYING THAT THE SECRETARY OF STATE HAS SENT A NOTE TO THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT CONDEMNING, OR AT LEAST CRITICIZING THE CREATION OF NEW SETTLEMENTS ON THE GOLAN HEIGHTS.

A. YOU ARE REFERRING TO AN ARTICLE THAT APPEARED IN MA'ARIV?

Q. MA'ARIV, I THINK -- YES. HAVE YOU ANYTHING TO SAY ABOUT THAT?

A. LET ME STATE THAT THE PRESIDENT HAS AUTHORIZED THE STATE DEPARTMENT TO STATE THAT WE STRONGLY DEPLORE THIS CONSTANT LEAKAGE OF MOST CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION, AND THE DEPARTMENT HAS SENT A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT TO THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT CONVEYING THESE VIEWS.

AFTER THE BRIEFING THE FOLLOWING CORRECTION TO THE REPLY WAS GIVEN NEWSMEN:

TWO POINTS -

FIRST, WHATEVER MESSAGE WAS SENT TO THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT WAS FROM THE PRESIDENT.

SECOND, THE STATEMENT BY THE DEPARTMENT'S SPOKESMAN THAT, IN ADDITION TO THE COMMENT AT TODAY'S BRIEFING THAT THE PRESIDENT HAD AUTHORIZED THE STATE DEPARTMENT TO STATE THAT WE STRONGLY DEPLORE THIS CONSTANT LEAKAGE OF MOST CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION, THE DEPARTMENT WAS ALSO SENDING A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT TO THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT CONVEYING THESE SAME VIEWS WAS INCORRECT. THE DEPARTMENT-

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MENT IS NOT SENDING AN ADDITIONAL MESSAGE.

Q. DOES THIS MEAN THAT YOU ARE CONFIRMING THAT THIS WAS AN INSTANCE OF THAT KIND OF LEAKAGE?

A. YOU ARE FREE TO DRAW THAT KIND OF CONCLUSION. I AM GOING TO JUST STAY WITH THE STATEMENT I MADE.

Q. IS MR. ATHERTON COMING BACK WITH ANYTHING, ANY DEVELOPMENTS, ANY INFORMATION THAT WILL BE USEFUL TOWARDS CASTING SOME LIGHT ON THE DEVELOPMENTS ON THE MIDDLE EAST DIPLOMATIC PROCESS?

A. I THINK AS WAS INDICATED WHEN HIS TRIP WAS ANNOUNCED, THE SECRETARY THOUGHT IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR MR.

ATHERTON TO VISIT THE AREA AND HAVE AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON A VARIETY OF SUBJECTS, INCLUDING THE UPCOMING SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE. AND OBVIOUSLY WE WILL BE AWAITING HIS RETURN TO RECEIVE HIS REPORT ON THE RESULTS OF THESE TALKS.

Q. THE ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTER WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE BEEN OFF ON A SECRET MISSION OVER THE WEEKEND. DID THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT CONSULT WITH THE UNITED STATES ABOUT THIS IN ANY WAY? ARE WE AWARE OF IT? WERE WE AWARE OF IT?

A. I SAW PRESS REPORTS ABOUT IT, BUT I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING ON IT, NO.

Q. YOU WEREN'T INFORMED BY THEM?

A. NOT THAT I'M AWARE OF.

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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06 JUL 2006

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